

Hyptis brevipes

Family: Lamiaceae (Labiatae by some)

Species: *Hyptis brevipes* Poit.

Common Names: lesser roundweed, nanto-iganigakusa (Taiwan), genggeyan and kaneja (Indonesia), sawi hutan (Malaysia), ortela-brava and fazendeiro (Brazil)

Synonyms:

Hyptis acuta Benth.

Hyptis breviceps Poit. (Reed, 1977)

Bayer Code: HPYBR

Description: An erect annual plant up to 1 m high with the typical square stem of a labiate, often densely hairy but sometimes less so. Leaves are also normally coarsely hairy on both surfaces, opposite, narrowly ovate or lanceolate, 5–7 cm long, up to 2 cm wide, cuneate at the base, the margins irregularly serrate. The inflorescence is a dense raceme, almost globose, up to 14 mm diameter, on a peduncle about 1 cm long in the axils of most upper leaves. Corolla white, irregularly five-lobed, about 5 mm long. The calyx, 4 mm long, also has five narrow, finely barbed lobes. Seeds ovoid, up to 1 mm long, dark brown to black, obscurely striate, with a conspicuous scar.

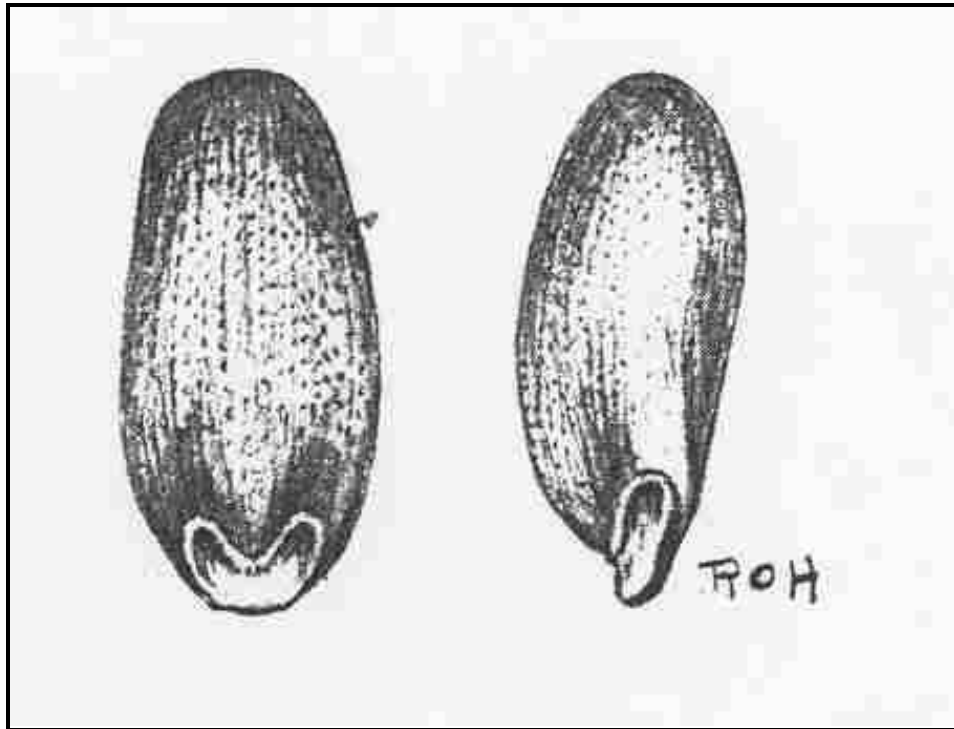


Figure 1. *Hyptis brevipes* from fruit (nutlet) from Reed (1977)



Figure 2. *Hyptis brevipes* from Lorenzi (1982)

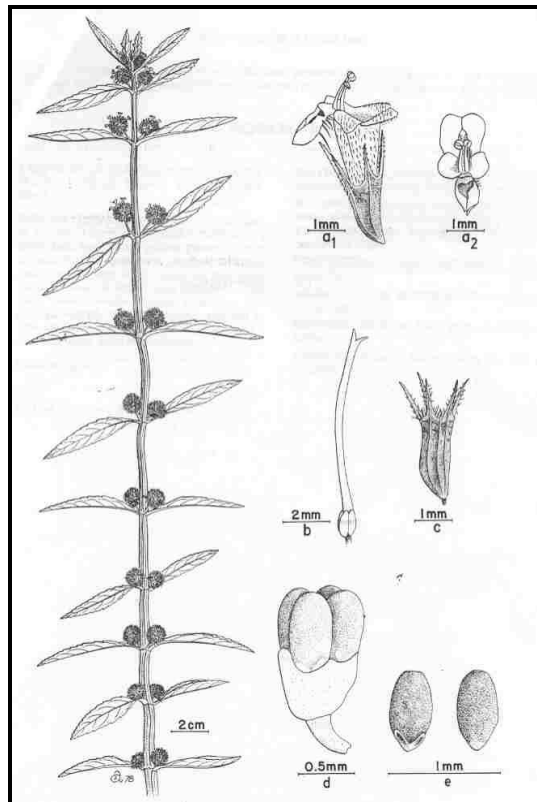


Figure 3. *Hyptis brevipes* from Kostermans et al. (1987)

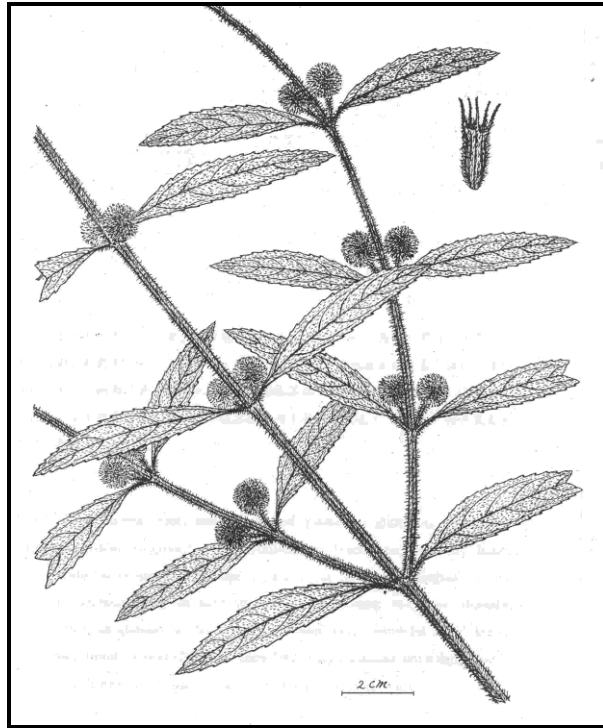


Figure 4. *Hyptis brevipes* from Lin (1968)

Distribution: Kostermans et al. (1987) describes *Hyptis brevipes* as originating in Mexico but now being “pantropical, a long time ago naturalized in Indonesia.” Occurrence in Africa, however, is in doubt. The plant known as *Hyptis brevipes* in the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* is now equated with *Hyptis lanceolata* Poit. (Morton, 1963). Distribution appears to be almost strictly tropical, though there is some occurrence in subtropical southern Brazil. It is native in the Americas (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Guyana, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru). *Hyptis brevipes* has naturalized in Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam) (NGRP, 2002; Holm et al., 1979; Kostermans et al., 1987; Reed, 1977; Waterhouse, 1993).

Native and Naturalized Distribution of *Hyptis brevipes* Poit.

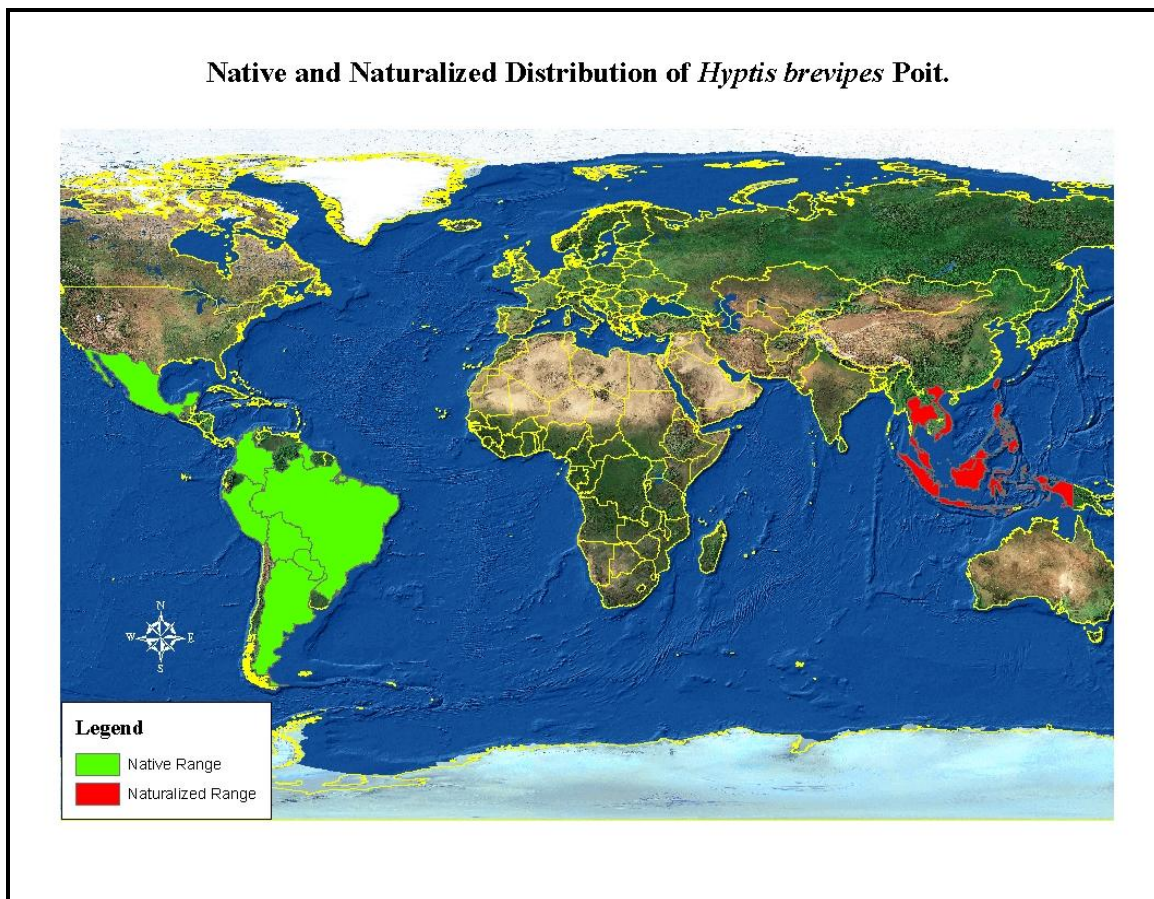


Figure 5. By Glenn Fowler, USDA APHIS PPQ CPHST, 2002 (Fowler, 2002)

Biology and Ecology: *Hyptis brevipes* is a plant of cultivation and waste areas, including forest edges, wet ground, and rice crops, and is favored by continuous wetness, without a prolonged dry season.

Possible Pathways to the United States: As a weed of crops in a wide range of countries of South America and Asia, there is a significant risk of accidental introduction with crop seed and other agricultural produce.

Adverse Impact: *Hyptis brevipes* is listed by Holm et al. (1979) as a “principal” weed of Malaysia and a “common” weed of Borneo, the Philippines, and Taiwan. Lorenzi (1982) describes it as a damaging weed of humid conditions along the coast, where it can develop large infestations, and in banana plantations. It could pose a threat to crops and natural vegetation in warm, humid regions of the United States.

Literature Cited:

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